

A watercolor illustration featuring a central text block surrounded by various flowers and berries. The flowers include blue, pink, and red blossoms, along with green leaves and clusters of small red and pink berries. The background is a light, textured paper.

Lord,

thank you for the women
who have loved us,
prayed for us
and walked with us
in faith.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE! May this hour be a journey of the heart, a renewal of spirit, a pause in our lives as we worship the Lord our God together. If you are a guest this morning, we extend a special welcome to you and invite you to sign our guest book located in the gathering space outside of the sanctuary, also known as the narthex. If you are interested in learning more about our congregation and becoming a member, please visit with any member of the congregation or Pastor Janis Sloka. Thank you for celebrating the love of Jesus Christ with us at St. Paul Lutheran Church!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE! We feel strongly that the faith formation of youth—just as any adult’s—develops through experience; because of this, we welcome youth of all ages to participate fully in worship and invite them to serve in a number of roles, such as: ushers, greeters, readers, and musicians. While we expect that children will behave as children—giggles, wiggles, and all—we also understand that sometimes they (and their parents or guardians) need a break; on those occasions, you are welcome to utilize the nursery (unstaffed) located on the north end of the narthex. Additionally, there is a playroom for children and a couch room for older youth on the west end of the Fellowship Hall. You can also find children’s bulletins and crayons on the table as you enter the main church building doors.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP As Lutherans, worship is connected with and central to everything we do—uniting us in celebration, engaging us in thoughtful dialogue, and helping us grow in faith. At the heart of our worship life is the presence of God through the word proclaimed and the sacraments—Holy Baptism and Holy Communion; this is because worship is—first and foremost—fundamentally about what God is doing in the world and in our lives, and then our response to God’s action. In the context of worship, we find our response in the liturgy, which is a way of living God’s story. The liturgical texts that form the prayers we pray, the texts we say, and the songs we sing find their roots in the Bible; for more information see the back of the hymnal, ELW pp. 1154-1159. Furthermore, these liturgical texts invite each and every one of us—not just the pastor or choir or any other worship leader—to use our voices to praise God. Through worship we are shaped to be participants in God’s life in this world.

PLEASE ASK AN USHER FOR...

- Assistance with wheelchair seating
- Assisted listening devices
- Large print bulletins
- Directions to restrooms

AED Unit an AED Unit is found in the coat area when you enter the main entrance.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day ~ May 10, 2026 ~ 9:00 a.m.

+Indicates to stand as you are able. Congregational responses are printed in **bold**.

INTRODUCTION

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

WELCOME

God is good! **All the time!**

All the time! **Good is good! All are welcome here!**

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!**

We run to the tomb to see for ourselves, and it is true... Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!**

Our Lord is with us now and always, for Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

+CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Most merciful God, we **confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. As a called and ordained minister in Christ and by His grace we have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthens us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith. **Amen.**

+GATHERING SONG "Come, Thou Almighty King" ELW #408 LBW #522

+GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also, with you.**

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING – Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM – 66:8-20 *The psalm is read by whole verses today.*

Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)

⁸ Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

⁹ **who has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

11 You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;

¹² you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

13 I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows,

¹⁴ those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

15 I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatted calves, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. *Selah*

¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

17 I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.

¹⁸ If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

19 But truly God has listened; he has heard the words of my prayer.

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

SECOND READING – 1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION SONG—"I Love You, Lord"

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice,
To worship You, O my soul rejoice.
Take joy my King, in what You hear;
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear. *Sing twice*

+GOSPEL – John 14:15-21 CHILDREN'S PEW BIBLE PAGE #450

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GROWING TOGETHER IN THE WORD (CHILDREN AND ADULTS)

GATHER GROW GO

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ADULT MESSAGE- Loree Jeffers

HYMN OF THE DAY "The Little Brown Church in the Vale"

1. There's a church in the valley by the
wild wood, No lovelier place in the dale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
as the little brown church in the vale.

*Chorus: Oh, come, come, come, come
Come to the church in the wildwood,
Oh, come to the church in the dale.
No spot is so dear to my childhood
as the little brown church in the vale.*

2. How sweet on a clear sabbath
morning, To listen to the clear ringing
bell; Its tones so sweetly are calling,
Oh, come to the church in the vale.

Chorus

3. From the church in the valley by the
wildwood When day fades away into
night, I would fain from this spot of my
childhood. Wing my way to the
mansions of light. *Chorus*

+APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,
our Lord. He was conceived by the
power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

+PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

+PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also, with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS/BIRTHDAYS

"Happy Birthday dear friends, may Jesus bless you!"

OFFERING- CHILDREN'S OFFERING- ADULT CHOIR

Thank you for your time, talents, and treasures. These offerings support the ministry of St. Paul. You may also visit www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving. We are now also accepting donations via Venmo and PayPal.

***Members, for a record of your giving, please if you give cash put your name on an envelope.*

Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul Lutheran!

+SONG "Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

+OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

+LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

+OUR MISSION What is the mission we share together?

Our mission is to GATHER as God's people; to GROW in faith, love, and service; and to GO into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.

+BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless us, keep us, and give us peace. Amen.

+SENDING SONG "Go My Children with My Blessing" *ELW#543*

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

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This worship service is being broadcast via our Web Site. It is also being recorded and will be uploaded to our web site and will remain there in the file "past worship services."

Today

- **Thank you Loree for bringing our message today!**
- **Mother's Day blessings to everyone who is a "mom" in someone's life!**
Women, please pick up your annual on your way out!
- **Please help the council decide if there is interest to add an additional worship service on Wednesday evenings from September to May. *This is the last day of the survey.* It will close this evening. Please use this link or a paper survey is available on the information table. Thank you.**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PK55GFN>



Volunteer Opportunities

- We need acolytes, readers, and fellowship hosts for the rest of May.

Upcoming

- Have you marked your calendars for the Parking Lot Party on June 7th and the Rummage Sale on June 19th & 20th?
- Camp Scholarships have been emailed out. They have also been posted to GroupMe. If you did not receive it, please let Holly know or you can pick a copy up in the Narthex. The deadline to return them is May 27th.
- We will celebrate our Senior graduates next Sunday, May 17th.

Outreach

- Little Lunches Backpack Program” is hosted by St. Paul. If you would like to get involved, please let Dawn Kolden or Pastor Sloka know.
- The Women want to thank everyone who donated items for the fidget blankets and for all those who helped put them together!

General

- We are asking if any Thrivent members have a Thrivent Action Grant, they would allow us to use towards projects, please let the office staff know. *Please also be aware of the new guidelines for Thrivent Choice Dollars.*

You are invited to visit www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving.



We also now offer Venmo and PayPal
***Thank you for being a part of what God
is doing at St. Paul!***

*****Members, for a record of your giving.***



venmo

In Our Prayers...

Our military and their families.

Pat Newman, Mike Maki, Rickie Ouhl, Geri Fevold, Carol Johnson, Deb Youngs, Pat Thompson, Baby Eloise Hauf, Harold Lindsey, Neil Biwer, Shane Sagert, Glenn Renner, Duke Kastner, Linda Ravnaas, Rachel Everett, Becky Tebby, Pete Stanius, Jessica Johns, Chet Adam, Kayla Neilsen, Jylann Hanson, Jan Clapper, Andy Zietz, Mary Thorson, Paul Hellebush, Jeff Wretling, Alton Krebsbach.

Family and Friends of Betty Iglehart, Nathan Bostow, Ashley Ross, Debbie Stratton at their deaths.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS THIS WEEK

Paige Hellman	May 10	Riggs Kolden	May 14
Pastor Sloka	May 11	Jill Mautz	May 15
Sutton Kolden	May 12	Blayne Uhlich	May 16
Jude Iverson	May 13	Stuart Bennett	May 16
Judy Betz	May 14		

**Would you like to receive our weekly email updates?
Please scan this barcode.**



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today, Sunday, May 10th Mother's Day

9AM Worship

10AM Sunday School

Fellowship hosted by VBS

Monday

1PM Quilters

Tuesday

10AM Women's Bible Study & Men's Bible Study

5PM Parking Lot Party planning team meeting

5:30PM Sweet Sounds Practice

Wednesday

St. Paul Crafting Group

Thursday

10AM Community Bible Study

St. Paul Crafting Group

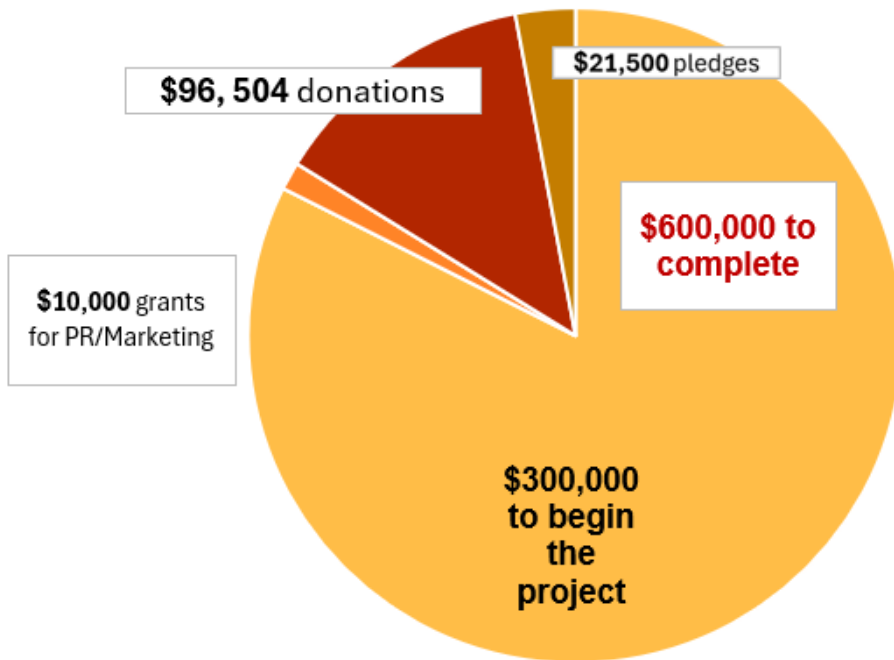
Friday, Saturday St. Paul Crafting Group

Next, Sunday, May 17th Graduation Recognition Sunday

9AM Worship led by Sweet Sounds

10AM Sunday School

10AM Fellowship with our Graduates



Mark your calendars! Join us for a parking lot party!
“Help us pave the way” “Cementing our Future!”
Sunday, June 7th 11AM-4PM
Vendors, Food, Carnival, Music and much more to come!

**Mark your calendars for the
 Annual Rummage Sale**
 Friday, June 19 from 4-7PM
 & Saturday, June 20 from 9AM-1PM
 Donations can be dropped off starting Sunday, June 14 after 1PM.

Three icons are displayed at the bottom of the text box: a collection of various clothing items (shirts, pants, shoes, etc.) with the word 'Clothes' written below them; a blue box overflowing with colorful items representing donations; and a simple line drawing of an armchair.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH + ELCA

P.O. Box 726 – Garrison, ND 58540
stpaul@restel.com
Church Office: 701-463-2019
Sunday Worship – 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School Sept-May – 10:00 a.m.

www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com
pastorsloka@gmail.com
Pastor Janis Sloka, III Cell: 701-861-9915
Lisa Haugen, SAM Cell: 701-898-0277
Mike Youngs, SAM Cell: 701-898-9893

SERVING IN THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF OUR CHURCH

<i>Ministers</i>	The People of St. Paul Lutheran
<i>Pastor</i>	Rev. Janis Sloka, III
<i>Faith Formation Director/Treasurer</i>	Holly Klemisch
<i>Synodically Authorized Ministers</i>	Lisa Haugen and Mike Youngs
<i>Partner in Ministry</i>	Our Savior Lutheran Church, Max
<i>Church Council Officers</i>	Randy Essler, Kayla Macheledt & Deb Youngs
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Custodian</i>	Pam Kolden
<i>Missionaries</i>	Anne & Willie Langdji; Katie Narum Miyamoto
<i>Sweet Sounds Coordinator</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Choir Director</i>	Lisa Haugen
<i>Musicians</i>	Kim Gehring and Sundi Lagge
<i>Reader</i>	Sunday School Children
<i>Ushers</i>	Dan Splichal and Stu Merry
<i>Greeters/Door Greeter</i>	Lorinda Johnson, Joleen Splichal and Jan Merry
<i>Acolyte</i>	Camden Diffely
<i>Fellowship</i>	VBS Team
<i>Technology</i>	Lisa Maki
<i>Council Member</i>	Randy Essler

MISSION STATEMENT

As we share the gospel of Jesus Christ, our mission is to **GATHER** as God's people; to **GROW** in faith, love, and service; and to **GO** into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.